

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTIES OF POTTER §
AND RANDALL §
CITY OF AMARILLO §

On the 2nd day of June, 2011, the Downtown Urban Design Review Board met in a scheduled session at 5:30 P.M. in Room 306 on the third floor of City Hall, 509 East 7th Avenue, Amarillo, Texas, with the following members present:

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD	NO. MEETINGS ATTENDED
Chan Davidson	No	6	5
Melissa Henderson	Yes	6	5
David Horsley	Yes	6	6
Charles Lynch, alternate	No	6	4
Kevin Nelson	Yes	6	6
Bob Rathbun	Yes	6	5
Wes Reeves	Yes	6	3
Mason Rogers	No	6	2
Howard Smith	Yes	6	6
Dana Williams-Walton	Yes	6	6

CITY STAFF:
Kelley Shaw, Planning Director

Chairman Smith opened the meeting, established a quorum, and conducted the consideration of the following items beginning with ITEM 1.

ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes from the May 5, 2011 meeting

Chairman Smith asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the minutes? Mr. Horsley motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Rathbun seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 2: Consider an application for a variance from height requirements for fences at 710 S. Van Buren

Mr. Shaw began by discussing the Downtown Design Standards and related fencing requirements. Mr. Shaw stated that chain-link, perimeter type fencing was not allowed and that any fencing specifically regulated by the Downtown Design Standards needed to be fencing of a quality, transparent material and no higher than 6 feet. Mr. Shaw explained that the fence being proposed would meet such standards except for the fact that the applicant was requesting a variance to allow the fence to be 8 feet high. Mr. Shaw then introduced Mr. Joe Bob McCartt to give the Board a synopsis of the project and his variance request.

Mr. McCartt explained that the current tenant of the building was needing an area for outside storage for their larger items. He stated that he understood the reasoning behind the 6-foot height requirement whereby allowing higher fences could create a “walled off” environment. He stated that this particular fence would be towards the rear of the lot, approximately 70 feet from the public right-of-way and pedestrian sidewalks and, in his opinion, would not create a negative impact on the pedestrian environment.

Mr. Horsley asked about the material of the fence which Mr. McCartt replied it would be a black expanded metal fence with metal tubular posts. Ms. Henderson asked if Mr. McCartt could describe what kind of materials would be stored outside. Mr. McCartt replied augers, encasements, etc. that are related to their business. Ms. Henderson asked Mr. Shaw to clarify the City’s outdoor screening requirements. Mr. Shaw explained that outdoor screening was allowed in the Central Business District the Downtown Design Standards regulated the materials and height.

Mr. Shaw then began to discuss Staff’s recommendation by stating that the lot was an interior lot within the middle of the block, and the proposed fence was located more than halfway back of a 150 foot deep lot. Given the materials of the fence meeting the Downtown Design Standards requirements and the location of the fence, Mr. Shaw recommended approval of the variance to allow the fence to be up to 8 feet high.

Hearing no other comments, Mr. Rathbun motioned to approve the variance, Mr. Horsley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ITEM 3: Consider an application for a variance from tree spacing requirements for 1001 S. Pierce

Mr. Shaw stated that the application for a variance from tree spacing requirements had been withdrawn at the applicant’s request and therefore needed no action.

ITEM 4: Public Forum

Mr. Smith asked if there was any public comment and hearing none, adjourned the meeting.

Kelley Shaw
Planning Director